The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Friday, the 22nd December 1922, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. Rajagopala Achariyar Avargal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No.* 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions, and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Repairs of tanks under minor irrigation.

638 *Q.*—Mr. A. M. Ahmad Miran Sahib: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a contribution from the ryots of the Tinnevelly district for the repairs of tanks under minor irrigation are collected while such a system does not exist in any other district of the Presidency; and

(*b*) what the reasons are for the adoption of the system in the Tinnevelly district?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No contributions are now being demanded, but where the ryots wish priority given to a particular work which would not otherwise be executed, they are allowed to secure it by a contribution subject to its payment before a given date.

The Five Falls road near Courtalam.

639 *Q.*—Mr. R. Appaswami Nayudu: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any petition, dated 30th July 1921, from one Mr. I. S. Akilandam Pillai, landlord, Elanji, Tenkasi taluk, Tinnevelly district, to the effect that the Five Falls road near Courtalam, Tenkasi taluk, Tinnevelly district, is in such a deplorable state that the produce raised in the adjacent parts of the wet and dry lands cannot be carted through this road and consequently the cultivators are subjected to serious loss; and

(*b*) what steps the Government propose to take to redress the grievances of these ryots?

A.—(*a*) The Government received a petition from Akilandam Pillai and it was transferred to the Chief Conservator of Forests for disposal.

(*b*) The road was repaired last year at a cost of Rs. 330 and is now reported to be in good condition.